

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1245

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 8736

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, UK, GR

SUBJECT: CYPRUS ISSUE: JOINT PLANNING WITH UK

REF: A. STATE 254177

B. ANKARA 8074

C. NICOSIA 3213

1. OUR VIEWS CONCERNING A POSSIBLE TURKISH CYPRIOT
UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE (UDI) COINCIDE WITH
THOSE EXPRESSED BY EMBASSY NICSIA IN REF C. WE ALSO SUSPECT THAT
THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO POSSIBILITY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS/TURKEY
COULD BE PERSUADED TO RESCIND UDI ONCE IT WAS DECLARED. AS
WE SEE IT FROM ATHENS, IT WOULD BE ESSENTIAL THAT THE USG
PROMPTLY DEPLORE UDI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER IT IS DECLARED.
ONLY THEN, IN THE EYES OF THE EYES OF THE GREEKS IN ANY EVENT, WOULD
ANY
SUBSEQUENT EFFORTS TO REVERSE OR MODERATE UDI THROUGH QUIET
DIPLOMACY CARRY ANY CREDIBILITY.

2. FAILURE ON OUR PART TO EXPRESS IMMEDIATE DISAPPROVAL OF
UDI WOULD CONSISTUTE A SERIOUS SETBACK IN OUR RELATIONS WITH
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THE GOG AND U-GREEK RELATIONS GENERALLY. THE GREEKS WOULD BE

HARD PRESSED TO UNDERSTAND WHY WE
WOULD TEMPORIZE ON THIS ISSUE, ANOTHER VERY SERIOUS FAIT ACCOMPLY,
WHICH BY ITS VERY NATURE WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE
THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND MAKE EFFORTS TO FIND A SOLUTION EVEN
MORE DIFFICULT. ATTEMPTS TO EXPLAIN THAT "QUIET DIPLOMACY" SHOULD
BE GIVEN A CHANCE FIRST TO RESCIND, OR AT LEAST MODERATE,
THE UDI DECLARATION WOULD NOT BE VERY CONVINCING TO THE
GREEKS WHO WOULD SEE OUR SILENCE AS FURTHER EVIDENCE WE WERE
SIDING WITH THE TURKS--OR AT BEST STALLING. OUR FAILURE
TO DEPLORE SUCH AN ACTION IN THE FACE OF STATEMENTS BY THE
UK AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD MAKE OUR POSITION HERE
EVEN MORE DIFFICULT.

3. WE DEFER, OF COURSE, TO EMBASSIES NICOSIA AND ANKARA ON
THE LIKELIHOOD OF A POSSIBLE UDI AND ARE SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGED
THAT, FOR THE PRESENT AT LEAST, IT PROBABLY WILL NOT MATERIALIZE.
IT SEEMS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT WE, IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH
THE BRITISH AND OTHERS, SHOULD WEIGH IN HEAVILY WITH
THE TURKS AND WITH DENKTASH AT THE SLIGHTEST INDICATION UDI
IS SERIOUSLY THREATENING TO TAKE PLACE.
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